

**REMARKS**

**I. Introduction**

In response to the pending final Office Action, Applicants have amended claim 14 to correct inadvertent grammar and typographical errors and antecedent basis issues, and to further clarify the subject matter of the present disclosure. Claims 1-6, 10 and 13 were cancelled, without prejudice. Claim 18 was amended to correct claim dependency. Support for the amendment to claim 14 may be found, for example, in original claim 11. No new matter has been added.

The Office Action Summary lists claims 11, 17 and 19 as withdrawn from consideration. Applicants request correction of the Summary, as claims 11, 17 and 19 were cancelled in a previous response. Applicants respectfully request correction of this error.

For the reasons set forth below, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are patentable over the cited prior art references.

**II. The Rejection Of Claims 1-6, 10, 13-16 And 18 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103**

Claims 1-6, 10, 13-16 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Modi (USP No. 6,241,244) in view of Awatsu et al (USP No. 5,777,304). As claims 1-6, 10, and 13 have been newly cancelled above, Applicants submit that the rejection of those claims is moot. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection of claims 14-16 and 18 for at least the following reasons.

As an initial matter, the Examiner alleges, on page 3, lines 9-11 of the Office Action, that Modi also discloses “said stored operation information contains, wherein said control unit acquires information from are set which to said automated teller machine”. Although addressing

claim 1 on page 3, the Action later applies the same rationale to claim 14 (section no. 11 at the top of page 8). The quotation, however, is not in claim 14, nor does the sentence make any sense. Applicants request clarification of this portion of the art rejection.

Amended independent claim 14 recites an automatic teller machine equipped with a currency deposit/withdraw mechanism for depositing/withdrawing a currency, comprising:

a main body control unit for controlling said automatic teller machine; wherein:

said currency deposit/withdraw mechanism includes:

a currency deposit/withdraw port for depositing/withdrawing the currency;

a discriminating unit for discriminating the currency deposited from said currency deposit/withdraw port;

a temporary storage unit for temporarily storing the currency discriminated by said discriminating unit;

a plurality of cassettes for storing therein the currencies in accordance with said discrimination result and also detachably mounted on said currency deposit/withdraw mechanism; and

a control unit for controlling said currency deposit/withdraw mechanism, each of said cassettes storing cassette information which includes a cassette sort indicating a type of the cassette, country sort information indicating a country of paper currency received in the cassette and money sort indicating the money sort of the paper currency received in said cassette, said discriminating unit storing discriminatable range information which includes a range of country sort information indicating country sorts of paper currency and a range of money sort indicating money sorts discriminatable in said discriminating unit;

said control unit for controlling said currency deposit/withdraw mechanism acquires said cassette information from said cassettes set to said currency deposit/withdraw mechanism and said discriminatable range information from said discriminating unit set to said currency deposit/withdraw mechanism, and also transmits said acquired cassette information and said acquired discriminatable range information to said main body control unit; and

said main body control unit stores operation information which is set prior to operation of said automated teller machine, said operation information contains country sort information indicating an area of paper currency which said automated teller machine should handle and cassette structural information indicating structure of cassettes for paper currency arranged with said automated teller machine, said main body control unit acquires said discriminatable range information and said cassette information transmitted from said control unit of said currency deposit/withdraw mechanism, and also transmits said operation information of said automated teller machine to said control unit of said currency deposit/ withdraw mechanism, said main body control unit checks whether said information transferred from said control unit of said currency deposit/withdraw mechanism matches with said information stored in its own main body control unit, and vice versa, prior to operation.

As is shown in Figs. 1-3, 5, 7 and 8 of the present disclosure, amended claim 14 contains the features of a currency deposit/withdraw mechanism 10 equipped with the automated teller machine 1 provided with a main body control unit 2 and a control unit 3 for controlling the currency deposit/withdraw mechanism 10. The main body control unit 2 stores operation information, and the discriminating unit and cassette mounted on the currency deposit/withdraw mechanism store the discriminatable range information and the cassette information. Information is mutually exchanged between the main body control unit 2 of the automated teller machine 1 and the control unit 3 of the currency deposit/withdraw mechanism 10 to check information with each other. As indicated by the term “vice versa” in claim 14 (line 36), it is apparent that the control unit 3 of the currency deposit/withdraw mechanism 10 also checks information transferred and acquired from the main body control unit 2 of the automated teller machine 1.

It is alleged that Modi discloses the control unit for storing operation information as discussed above in col. 3, lines 16-67, col. 4-5, and col. 9, lines 43-64. However, in col. 3, lines 16-67, Modi only discusses the objects of the invention. Col. 4-5 of Modi discusses only a description that deposited paper currency is identified, the identified paper currency is stored in a canister, and payment is conducted. There is no description of the features of a main body control unit for storing therein operation information used to operate the automated teller machine.

It is admitted that Modi fails to disclose a discriminating unit storing discriminatable range information which includes a range of country sort information indicating country sorts of paper currency and a range of money sort indicating money sorts discriminatable in said discriminating unit. The examiner alleges that Awatsu discloses these features in the Abstract, col. 14, lines 5-17 and col. 15, lines 1-52. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Awatsu states, in col. 14, lines 5-17 that a flow of the automatic cash setting and recovering unit 6 is shown in Fig. 11. However, an explanation of the automatic teller machine 3 (ATM) is not disclosed here. Awatsu's automatic cash setting and recovering unit 6 is provided in the cash processing apparatus 1 shown in Fig. 4. Thus, it is not provided in the ATM as suggested by the Examiner. The description at step S6 of Fig. 11B is concerned with when an operation for setting or supplying cash to the personnel safe 20 is performed in the automatic cash setting and recovering unit 6, the operation is checked as to whether completion of the setting operation is performed. As such, there is no discussion about a discriminating unit storing discriminatable range information which includes a range of country sort information indicating country sorts of paper currency and a range of money sort indicating money sorts discriminatable in said discriminating unit.

Col. 15, lines 1-52 of Awatsu also fail to disclose this feature. This passage describes a flow of recovering and checking bills of the automatic cash setting and recovering unit shown in Figs. 18 and 19. Fig. 20 shows the flow of the ATM in which flow of recovering and checking bills comprises checking whether the demanded number of bills is recovered, and checking whether the recovering is completed. In the disclosed, the flow of the ATM, when the cash safe 2 is set in the ATM, the control section 34 of the ATM acquires information stored in the memory 231 of the control section 23 of the cash safe 2. However, as is shown in col. 15, lines 53-67, information that is to be acquired and compared includes the machine ID, ATM-ID and cash-safe ID, which are quite different from the discriminatable range information of claim 14, which includes a range of country sort information indicating country sorts of paper currency and a range of money sort indicating money sorts discriminatable in said discriminating unit. As such, it is clear that Awatsu fails to disclose this limitation of claim 14.

In addition, the Examiner admits failure of Modi to teach the limitation of each of said cassettes storing cassette information which includes a cassette sort indicating a type of the cassette, country sort information indicating a country of paper currency received in the cassette and money sort indicating the money sort of the paper currency received in said cassette. It is alleged that Awatsu teaches this limitation in col. 14, lines 5-17, col. 9, line 61-col. 10, line 40, col. 15, lines 1-52, the Abstract and Figs. 25-28. Col. 14, lines 5-17, col. 15, lines 1-52, and the Abstract do not disclose these features. With regard to col. 9, line 61-col. 10, line 40, this passage describes a flow of the automatic cash setting and recovering unit 6. However, there is no description of "cassette information". Moreover, Figs. 25-28 are discussed in col. 18, lines 16-29, in which apparatus numbers of available apparatuses are written in the memory 231 of the cash safe 2 under control of the cash management unit 5. For example, in Fig. 25, the cassette (cash

safe 2) having the cassette number A001 shows that the cassette is available for the apparatuses (ATM) 0010 and 0012 at the branch 0013 of the bank 0001. As is apparent from this description, these features do not correspond to the cassette information of claim 14. As such, it is clear that Awatsu fails to disclose a cassette storing cassette information which includes a cassette sort indicating a type of the cassette, country sort information indicating a country of paper currency received in the cassette and money sort indicating the money sort of the paper currency received in said cassette.

The Examiner also admits that Modi fails to disclose the limitations of a country sort information indicating an area of paper currency which said automated teller machine should handle and cassette structural information indicating structure of cassettes for paper currency arranged with said automated teller machine, the main body control unit stores operation information which is set prior to operation of the automated teller machine, the cassette structural information indicating structure of cassettes for paper currency arranged with said automated teller machine, country sort information indicating a country of paper currency received in the cassette and money sort indicating the money sort of the paper currency received in said cassette. It is alleged that Awatsu teaches this limitation in col. 14, lines 5-17, col. 9, line 61-col. 10, line 40, col. 15, lines 1-52, col. 17, lines 44-59, the Abstract and Figs. 25-28. Col. 14, lines 5-17, col. 9, line 61-col. 10, line 40, col. 15, lines 1-52, the Abstract and Figs. 25-28 do not disclose the features above. Col. 17, lines 44-59 of Awatsu describes Figs. 9, 10 and 23 in which a bill recycling control section 300 of the bill recycle unit (BRU) 30 is explained. However, this section does not teach or suggest all of the information, i.e., cassette structural information, country sort information and money sort, of claim 14. As such, Awatsu fails to teach or suggest the limitations

In order to establish *prima facie* obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. As is clearly shown, Modi and Awatsu do not disclose the above-mentioned limitations of amended claim 14 of the present disclosure. Accordingly, Applicants submit that Modi and Awatsu do not render claim 14 of the present invention obvious and as such, claim 14 is patentable and allowable over the cited prior art. As such, Applicants respectfully request that the § 103(a) rejection of claim 14 be withdrawn.

**III. All Dependent Claims Are Allowable Because The Independent Claim From Which They Depend Is Allowable**

Under Federal Circuit guidelines, a dependent claim is nonobvious if the independent claim upon which it depends is allowable because all the limitations of the independent claim are contained in the dependent claims, *Hartness International Inc. v. Simplimatic Engineering Co.*, 819 F.2d at 1100, 1108 (Fed. Cir. 1987). Accordingly, as claim 14 is patentable for the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that all pending dependent claims are also in condition for allowance.

IV. **Conclusion**

Having fully responded to all matters raised in the Office Action, Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance, an indication of which is respectfully solicited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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